FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: July 10, 2015 Contact: Pat Doyle, (406) 444-3818 Betsy Kirkeby, (406) 444-3343

Public Comment Sought on Montana State Parks Lands Policy

-Comments due by Friday, July 31 at 5pm-

(Helena, MT) – Montana State Parks (stateparks.mt.gov) is seeking public comment on the Montana State Parks Lands Policy. The proposed policy will provide formal guidelines for any future acquisition, as well as possible disposal of any Park Division lands. <u>Comments are accepted through Friday, July 31 at 5pm.</u>

The Montana State Parks & Recreation Board will be responsible for screening potential new park sites or additions to existing parks. Previously, acquisition of Montana State Parks lands occurred without foresight for future development needs, long-term maintenance and staffing costs, and other similar considerations. Additionally, some land holdings within the Parks Division might be more appropriately managed by other public entities. The proposed Lands Policy will ensure that future land acquisitions or disposals are suitable for the park system.

To view the proposed Land Policy visit: Montana State Parks Land Policy

Public comments will be accepted for 21 days. <u>Comments should be submitted by Friday, July 31 at 5pm.</u>

The public is invited to comment **online** at: <u>stateparks.mt.gov</u> click on "public notices" on the right-hand navigation bar. Or by **direct link** here:

http://stateparks.mt.gov/news/publicNotices/board/pn 0010.html

Send comments by **email** to **Tom Reilly, Montana State Parks Assistant Administrator at treilly@mt.gov**

Or by regular mail to Montana State Parks Land Policy, C/O Tom Reilly, PO Box 200701, Helena, MT 59620-0701.

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-###A division of Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks stateparks.mt.gov

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